

APPENDIX T

TRAILER INSPECTION CHECKLIST

This appendix contains a trailer inspection checklist that provides both general guidelines and a procedure for inspecting trailers. Items to be inspected are categorized under major systems. For data about a particular type of trailer, see the TM for that trailer.

INSPECTION CRITERIA

- **Trailer Body.**

☐ Trailer body is securely mounted on frame; all mounting bolts are present and properly secured.

- *Metal bodies.*

- ☐ Metal bodies are free of dents, cracks, and rusty areas; there is no warping.
 - ☐ Tailgate is securely mounted; it operates freely and fits tailgate opening properly. Tailgate fasteners and chains are in place and serviceable.
 - ☐ Vehicle bodies are kept drained to prevent rust.

- *Wood bodies.*

- ☐ Flooring is not cracked, broken, or excessively worn; there is no warping.
 - ☐ Sideboards are in place and in good condition.
 - ☐ Tailgates are properly mounted.

- **Tarpaulins and Bows.**

- ☐ Bows and racks are smooth and free of splinters.
 - ☐ Bows and racks are serviceable and securely mounted.

NOTE: Bolts in racks and bows should be installed with bolt heads out to prevent damage to canvas.

- ☐ All tarps and end curtains are on hand and in serviceable condition.
 - ☐ Canvas is mounted correctly (not inside out).
 - ☐ Ropes or straps are not frayed, broken, or missing. Tie-down strap hooks are not bent, broken, or missing.

- **Trailer Chassis.**

- ☐ Trailer chassis has no cracks, breaks, or broken welds.
- ☐ Frame is not sprung.
- ☐ The lunette or kingpin is properly mounted, secured, clean, and lubricated.
- ☐ Data plates and decals (when used) are secure, clean, and legible.
- ☐ Chock blocks are in place and properly secured.
- ☐ Landing legs are not bent; they operate freely.

- **Tires.**

- ☐ Tires have proper inflation.
- ☐ Tread is sufficient; there are no cuts, bruises, or breaks.
- ☐ There is no evidence of unusual wear.
- ☐ There are no rocks between duals.
- ☐ Valve caps are in place; valve stems are serviceable.
- ☐ Spare tire is in place and serviceable.

- **Electrical System and Reflectors.**

- ☐ All lights are mounted securely and in operating condition.
- ☐ Wires are not worn or frayed.
- ☐ Lenses are not cracked or discolored.
- ☐ Plug receptacle has cap and gasket; spring lid fits properly.
- ☐ Plug receptacle contacts are serviceable and free of dirt and corrosion.
- ☐ All reflectors are in place; lenses are not cracked, missing, or painted over.

- **Brake System.**

- ☐ Air coupling seal is serviceable; dummy coupling, with chain, is present.
- ☐ Coupling should attach easily; there is no air leak when attached.
- ☐ Air cylinder on trailer (when applicable) is securely mounted and operates freely.
- ☐ Cylinder boot is not torn or loose in mounting.
- ☐ Air lines are free of water (air filter is clean).
- ☐ The master cylinder reservoir has proper fluid level (see appropriate TM for specifications).
- ☐ Hand brake is adjusted and operates properly.